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July 20, 2004

Paula S. Sinkhart Signature

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Robert DE LAYS

Bart VANDERBORGHT

Eric SAMAN

Hugo VAN HEUVERSWYN

Serial No.: 09/851,664

Filed: May 9, 2001

For: PROCESS FOR DETECTING HIV-3

RETROVIRUS

Confirmation No.: 4387

Group Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: ZEMAN, R.A.

Atty. Dkt. No.: 11362.0025.DVUS03

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JUNE 10, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated June 10, 2004 for which the three-month date for response is September 10, 2004.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Deposit Account No. 01-2508/11362.0025.DVUS03.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.